

FAX
MEDICAL ALERT

To: Bay Area Physicians

From: Dr. Howard Hurt, Bay County Health Department Medical Director
Barbara MacGregor, Bay County Health Department Health Officer

Re: Swine Flu Update

Date: April 27, 2009

The Bay County Health Department is currently receiving information regarding outbreaks of H1N1 Swine Influenza (swine flu) within the United States and throughout the world. As of this morning, the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) is reporting one probable case of H1N1 infection in Livingston County.

Swine flu is a respiratory disease of pigs caused by a type A influenza virus that regularly causes outbreaks of influenza in pigs. Swine flu viruses do not typically infect humans; however, human infections with swine flu do occur. Public health officials have determined that this strain of swine flu virus spreads human to human and can cause illness.

It is our expectation that providers who have the capacity to test for illness do so and not rely on other public clinics and Emergency Departments. If you are in need of testing supplies and your normal supply options are unavailable or exhausted, please contact the Bay County Health Department at (989) 895-4157. (See attached MDCH Swine Influenza Testing Algorithm for testing criteria.)

The outbreak is ongoing and additional cases are expected. For more information concerning swine flu infection, please see the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) website:

<http://www.cdc.gov/swineflu/>.

For specific information on travel precautions and an update on the affected areas, please visit:

www.cdc.gov/travel.

The symptoms of swine flu in people are similar to the symptoms of seasonal flu in humans and may include:

- Fever (greater than 100 degrees F or 37.8 degrees C)

- Lack of appetite
- Sore throat
- Coughing and/or runny nose
- Chills
- Headache and body aches
- Fatigue
- Nausea and vomiting (in some cases)

Clinicians should consider Swine Influenza A infection in the differential diagnosis of patients presenting with febrile respiratory illness and who are a close contact to a confirmed case of Swine Influenza A (H1N1) virus infection during the case's infectious period,

OR

Persons presenting with acute respiratory illness who recently traveled to or reside in an area where there are confirmed cases of Swine Influenza A (H1N1) virus infection,

OR

Persons who traveled recently to Mexico or were in contact with persons who had febrile respiratory illness, and were in the areas of the United States with confirmed Swine Influenza cases, or Mexico, in the 7 days preceding their illness onset.

This Swine Influenza A (H1N1) virus is sensitive (susceptible) to zanamivir and oseltamivir. (Relenza and Tamiflu). It is resistant to amantadine and rimantadine.

For antiviral doses and schedules recommended for treatment of swine influenza A (H1N1) virus infections, please visit the CDC website:

<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/antivirals/dosagetable.htm#table>.

If you have questions regarding this Medical Alert, please contact the Bay County Health Department at (989) 895-4157.